



Attorney Docket : 032882 M 102

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE
Keizo HIROSE et al.)
Serial No.: 09/960,413) CONFIRMATION: 5643
Filed: September 24, 2001) Group Art Unit: 1744
) Examiner: Shay L Balsis

For : SUBSTRATE CLEANING TOOL AND SUBSTRATE CLEANING APPARATUS

COMMENT ON CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

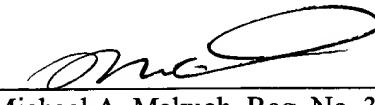
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to page 2 of the Notice of Allowability of September 30, 2005. Here, the Examiner commented that Applicants' claim for priority could not be based upon JP2000-288407 for reason that the present application was filed more than 12 months after the filing date of such Japanese application. This contention, however, is incorrect. It is pointed out that September 22, 2001, one year after the filing date of JP2000-288407 was on a Saturday. The next business day was September 24, 2001. This of course is the filing date of the present application. Hence, priority from JP2000-288407 has been timely and properly claimed.

Respectfully submitted,

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